



MFC News

Caring for the Trees and Forests of Mississippi Since 1926

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2014 Hurricane Season - View 1

2014 Storm Names

Arthur
Bertha
Cristobal
Dolly
Edouard
Fay
Gonzalo
Hanna
Isaias
Josephine
Kyle
Laura
Marco
Nana
Omar
Paulette
Rene
Sally
Teddy
Vicky
Wilfred

The 2014 hurricane name list is the same as the 2008 hurricane name list with the exception of three names that were devastating hurricanes in 2008 and thus retired. Gustav was replaced by Gonzalo, Ike was replaced by Isaias, and Paloma was replaced by Paulette.

Newsletter Deadlines

All submissions are welcome. E-mail articles and photos to lharris@mfc.state.ms.us.

Atlantic Hurricane Season 2014: Two US Landfalls Predicted; East Coast at Risk.

Following a season with the fewest number of hurricanes since 1982, the 2014 Atlantic hurricane season is expected to follow suit as a below-normal hurricane season.

With roughly 10 named tropical storms, five hurricanes and two major hurricanes predicted for the Atlantic Basin this season, AccuWeather.com's long-range forecasting team anticipates two storms, either tropical storms or hurricanes, to make landfall in the United States.

The onset of El Niño, a short-term phenomenon associated with above-normal water temperatures in the equatorial Pacific, may alter weather patterns across the globe. At some point this summer, El Niño will likely increase wind shear across portions of the Atlantic basin and thus suppress the development of tropical storms this season.

"If we have a robust El Niño develop, then the numbers will be much lower and this could be one of the least active years in memory,"

AccuWeather.com Senior Meteorologist Dan Kottlowski said.

If the 2014 season falls short of normal, it would only be the fourth below-normal season in 20 years, according to NOAA.

The official start of hurricane season, June 1, 2014, could be ushered in by one or two storms in June or July, according to Kottlowski.

However, most storms and the best potential for landfall will be on the horizon for the basin during the heart of hurricane season, which occurs later in the summer and into fall, in the months of August, September and October.

This summer, the areas to watch closely for potential impact will be those from eastern Louisiana, east through Florida and up through the Carolina and Virginia coasts, including the cities of New Orleans, Tampa, Miami, Key West, Charleston and Norfolk.

However, other areas along the coastline could still be hit as early predictions for pathways and intensity of storms and hurricanes weeks ahead of time are extremely difficult, according to Kottlowski.

Although this season overall numbers are predicted to be low, meteorologists urge people to be prepared for the worst.

"All we need is one hurricane," Kottlowski said. "Just because we are saying this is going to be an inactive season doesn't mean we couldn't have a couple of very intense hurricanes."

Kottlowski emphasized the importance of preparing for a storm, comparing this season to that of 1992. Nearly 22 years ago, after a nearly tranquil summer, Hurricane Andrew made landfall. A Category 5 storm, Andrew wiped out South Florida and portions of Louisiana, including Morgan City, and became one of the most memorable hurricanes in history.

"I'm worried because people think this is going to be a very inactive year, so people think they don't have to worry, but that's not the case at all," Kottlowski said. "All it takes is one storm or hurricane to ruin your vacation or your property."

Ahead of the season, AccuWeather.com meteorologists urge citizens along

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2, 2014 Hurricane Season - View 1)

the coast to begin preparations for the season. Once a storm or hurricane is on its way, it's almost too late, Kottlowski added.

Hurricanes can induce storm surges, or a pile-up of water that moves with a hurricane and rises quickly before crashing along the coast, which can wash away entire neighbor-

hoods. Superstorm Sandy demonstrated the strength of storm surges in October 2012, nearly demolishing the New Jersey coastline.

Damaging winds are another component of hurricanes that can bring extensive damage to impacted areas, as straight-line winds can knock down anything untethered. Hurricanes are also known for spawning tornadoes as they make landfall.

"Have an emergency kit together that includes food, water, copies of your housing documents, insurance papers and a safety kit," Kottlowski said.

"Think about the possibilities of where you are going to evacuate to."



2014 Hurricane Season - View 2

Global Weather Oscillations Inc. (GWO), a leading hurricane and climate prediction company with the best predictions record in the last 5 Years and the only organization that was correct in predicting the weak 2013 season, recently issued its hurricane predictions for the 2014 through 2017 Atlantic hurricane seasons. The 2014

Atlantic basin hurricane season will be stronger and more dangerous than last year (2013) with 17 named storms, 8 hurricanes and 3 major hurricanes (Category 3, 4 or 5). An average Atlantic hurricane season has 12 named storms, 6 hurricanes and 3 major hurricanes.

Upper atmospheric wind

shear coupled with sand blowing off Africa and over the eastern Atlantic Ocean stifled developing tropical systems similar to an El Niño, and was one of the key reasons for the 2013 Atlantic hurricane season being the third weakest hurricane season since 1956.

(Continued on page 5)

Mays Birthdays



Matthew Simpson -1
 Mary Bond -2
 Richard McInnis -3
 Douglas VanFleet -4
 Joshua Netherland -5
 Gregory Bourque -6
 Steven Prescott -7
 Brad Pulliam -7
 David McCain -9
 Samantha Bona -10
 Fred Floyd -10
 Edward McKie -11
 Jacob Hamilton -13
 Vickie Anderson -15
 Michael Gray -15
 James Hancock -15
 Robert Scoggin -15
 Brian Mitchell -16
 Michael Williams -17
 Gerald Green -18
 Deborah Stewart -18
 Tympel Turner -18
 Darryl Byrd -19
 Gregory Chatham -19
 Brian Wharton -19
 Alma Arbuckle -20
 Roberta Willis -20
 Joshua Skidmore -22
 Scott Jackson -23
 John Roberts -25
 Barry McKenzie -26
 Bryan Wheeler -26
 Bryan Davis -29
 Brad Odom -29
 Michael Sherman -29



Say Hello To Our

NEW HiRES

- ♣ Darrick Rawlings, Accountant Auditor, State Office - Financial Services
- ♣ Odis Johnson, Forest Ranger, Pearl River County, Southeast District
- ♣ Dustin H. Hardin, Forester, Attala County, East Central District

SAYING



TO OUR FRIENDS

- ♣ Jason Juneau, Forest Ranger, Pearl River County, Southeast District



June 2014



Type: simple, alternate, deciduous
Size: 3.0" - 4.0" long; 1.0" - 2.0" wide
Margin: doubly serrate-crenate
Apex: acute to acuminate
Base: extremely unequal
Shape: obovate-oblong to oblong
Color: yellow-green above; paler below
Surface: lustrous, glabrous above; pale pubescence on principal veins and midrib below
Venation: pinnate

Twigs:

Size: slender
Color: current season, brown
Surface: lustrous; occasionally somewhat hairy; 2nd and 3rd seasons characterized by 2-3 corky wings

Buds:

Size: terminal bud absent; laterals, 0.25" long
Shape: ovoid, sharp-pointed
Color: dark brown
Surface: glabrous, overlapping scales

Fruit and Flowers: **Samaras:** flattened seed; narrow wing; deep terminal notch; silver-white hairs on seed hull and wings
Size: 0.5" long

Tree Knowledge - Who Am I?

Shape: elliptical to oblong

Flower: monoecious; perfect; apetalous; in few- to many-flowered racemes; on short jointed stalks in leaf axils; greenish white (orangish anthers); flower 0.13" long

Bark: light grayish brown or red-brown; shallow fissures and flat ridges

Physical Attributes:

Form: single stem

Size: 70.0', mature

Growth Rate: rapid; 30.0' maximum @ 20 yrs

Life Span: short (<50 yrs)

Tolerances:

Shade: tolerant

Drought: medium

Fire: low Anaerobic: none

Habitat and Ecology:

Site: most frequently on moist clay or sandy loam soils, but also grows on dry, rocky soils of limestone origin

Soil Texture: fine - coarse

Soil pH: 5.5 - 8.0

Range: grows sporadically from southern Illinois across Kentucky and Tennessee to northern Georgia, northern Alabama, northern Mississippi, Arkansas, and eastern Oklahoma; most abundant in Arkansas and Tennessee; in Mississippi, only reported by the NRCS Plants Database in Rankin, Oktibbeha and Monroe

Counties - but likely occurs elsewhere in the State

Wildlife Value and Uses: seeds eaten by a variety of birds and small mammals, including squirrel; twigs and buds are sometimes browsed by deer, and a few game birds eat the buds

Timber Value and Uses: lumber is cut and sold with four other elm species and marketed as rock elm; lower portions of large trees may provide logs of veneer quality; wood is reddish brown, hard, close-grained, and very strong; can be polished to a high luster; excellent bending qualities

Landscaping Info: planted in landscapes, but succumbs to Dutch elm disease and elm necrosis

Other Facts: species may be more widely distributed and abundant than reported as a result of misrecognition as one of a number of "rock elms" with similar characteristics; one of only two elms that flowers after leafout.

Who Am I?

(Continued from page 3, 2014 Hurricane Season - View 2)

Research over the past 25 years has found that each of the Atlantic and Gulf coastal zones have varying weather cycles, and within each cycle, there exists smaller weather cycles which make each zone unique. Once all of the cycles are discovered, GWO then uses the Climate Pulse Technology to accurately assess the intensity of a future hurricane season, and the probability risk for hurricane or tropical storm conditions within a prediction zone for that year.

GWO makes specific predictions for 11 US coastal zones from New England to Texas. Prediction

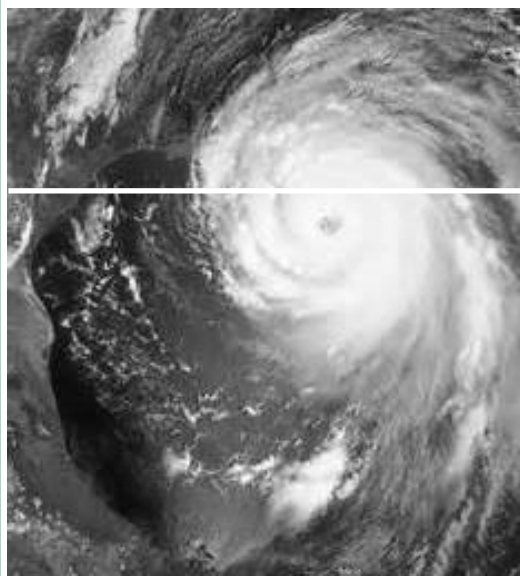
Zones assigned a high probability risk for a hurricane are termed "Hot Spots" for that year.

GWO's hot spot predictions for the United States have been nearly 90% accurate since 2006, and instrumental for long-range planning by insurance companies and other organizations.

GWO's recent CPT model successes include the very weak 2013 hurricane season, hot spot zone predictions of Hurricane Ike (2008), Irene (2011), and Sandy (2012). The prediction of Sandy, a high-impact hybrid storm was made 3 years in advance, and Irene 2 years in advance. The last major hurricane to strike the

US was in 2005 (Wilma), but that could change in 2014.

David Dilley, a former NOAA meteorologist formed Global Weather Oscillations Inc. (GWO) in 1992 with the specific understanding that weather and climate occurs in cycles. While mankind is playing some role in climate change, David Dilley believes most climate changes are primarily attributable to weather cycles. He disputes the notion that hurricanes occur randomly and are impossible to predict. He states "There are no random hurricanes, everything occurs in cycles."



FEMA joins NOAA's National Hurricane Center to promote storm readiness this month during Hurricane Preparedness Week, May 25-31, 2014

Hello
JUNE

Tree Knowledge - Who Am I?

April 2014 was the Eastern Red Cedar (*Juniperus virginiana* L.) Check out page 11 in the Mississippi Trees book.



Leaf



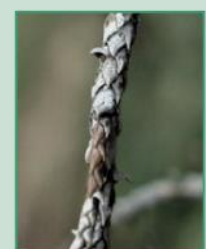
Fruit



Bark



Tree



Twig

2013 Atlantic Hurricane Season Recap

Last year we brought to light the 2013 hurricane season predictions by Phil Klotzbach and William M. Gray (research authorities at the Department of Atmospheric Science at Colorado State University).

In 2012, El Nino wasn't as much of a factor as some researchers had initially thought. As a result, the 2013 hurricane season was lighter than originally anticipated. As a matter of fact, 2013 was the first hurricane season since 1994 with no major hurricanes. It was also the first year since 1969 where there were no major hurricanes above a level 2.

The following storms were named in 2013:

- ♣ Andrea – a storm that stayed focused in Cuba, eastern US, and Atlantic Canada
- ♣ Barry – a small storm that blew through Belize and Mexico
- ♣ Chantal – a medium sized tropical storm that centered around Puerto Rico

- ♣ Dorian – the first storm to threaten The Bahamas and Florida
- ♣ Erin – a very small tropical storm that hit Cape Verde
- ♣ Fernand – the 2nd storm to hit Mexico, specifically Veracruz
- ♣ Gabrielle – the 2nd storm to hit Puerto Rico and part of Bermuda
- ♣ Eight – the smallest of the year, a Tropical Depression that hit Mexico
- ♣ Humberto – The first Category 1 hurricane of the season, hitting Cape Verde with 90 MPH sustained 1-minute winds
- ♣ Ingrid – The second Category 1 hurricane of the season, hitting Mexico, with 85 MPH sustained 1-minute winds. Both Humberto and Ingrid occurred within the same 3 week period
- ♣ Jerry – a small tropical storm that affected no major land regions
- ♣ Karen – a small tropical storm

- ♣ that affected the U.S. Gulf Coast
- ♣ Lorezno – a small tropical storm that affected no major land regions
- ♣ Melissa – The final tropical storm of the season that affected the Azores.

♣ Note - the names Dorian and Fernand were used for the first time in 2013.

In summary, 2013 ended with 14 recorded cyclones that occurred from June 5 – November 22, with an average max 1-minute wind strength of 90 MPH.

Experts caution that although 2013 was a relatively light year for hurricanes, there's no reason to assume 2014 will be, too.

Now is the time to prepare your business by creating an action plan that considers the risks associated with area-wide disasters.

Odds & Ends Forestry News

Simple Pleasures: The Mental Health Benefits of Street Trees

Washington, DC - A recent blog post from the Natural Resources Defense Council's Kaid Benfield argues that it's critical that we incorporate nature into cities, and in a way that supports urban environments. What are the benefits of doing this? [More](#)

Fruit Tree Initiative Grows Hope on Big Pine Key

Big Piney Key, FL - A local Florida

Keys resident has created the Growing Hope Initiative to turn a city's eye sore into an edible community park. So far it has about 35 tree species--and plans in the works for all the pieces to create a thriving public space. [More](#)

Why is the invasive emerald ash borer such a big deal?

The chair of the American Tree Farm System's® standards review panel spells it out. [Rutland Herald]. [More.](#)

A late, cool spring is good news for some forests, native plants and wildlife. [Asbury Park Press]. [More.](#)

Even dead trees need stewards!

California's Petrified Forest celebrates 100 years of protection by many generations of the same family. [Press Democrat]. [More.](#)

MFA News

Upcoming Events:

May 29 - Evening At Longleaf.

You are invited to be a part of a dinner sponsored by the Mississippi Forestry Foundation. The event will be Thursday, May 29th at [Longleaf Plantation](#), twelve miles south of Hattiesburg.

An "Evening at Longleaf" will feature Steve Freeman, a former NFL defensive back who played college football at Mississippi State University where he led the team in interceptions in 1973 and 1974. Steve currently serves as an official with the NFL and this year had the honor of serving as the back judge at the 2014 Super Bowl. The evening will begin with a 5:30 reception followed by a quail dinner. The cost is \$250 per person or \$400 per couple. Please contact [Eleana Pope](#) at the MFA office for additional information.

June 12 - Escambia Forestry Field Day,

Brewton, AL. Escambia Experimental Forest, 9:00 a.m. Topics to include regeneration techniques, forest inventory and mapping, wildlife management, pine straw production potential, and prescribed fire. E-mail [Becky Barlow](#) for more information.

September 19-20 - Mid-South Forestry Equipment Show

Starkville, MS. Longest-running live logging/biomass event in the country and only such venue located in the heart of the South's forest industry. For additional information visit <http://www.midsouthforestry.org/> or contact Misty Booth at msfes@cfrmsstate.edu or (662) 325-2191.

June 13 & 14 - White-Tailed Deer Workshop

The Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks, MSU College of Forest Resources, and MSU Extension Service are sponsoring a workshop on managing white-tail deer. This two-day workshop is being offered in Southaven on June 13 & 14 and in Raymond on July 18 & 19. This workshop will offer 6 credit hours for foresters and loggers. See the [workshop flyer](#) for additional information.



More Odds & Ends Forestry News

Smokey Bear, nearly 70, gets a millennial makeover.

As Smokey Bear approaches 70, the famous spokesbear for fire prevention gets a makeover, with a "younger, fresher" look and his own Facebook and Twitter accounts. [More.](#) [Los Angeles Times]

Want to know how many of the world's forests are on fire?

This scary NASA map shows how the world's forest are going up in smoke. [More.](#) [GlobalPost.com]

Borneo's mystery tress guzzle carbon.

Scientists ponder the mysteries of carbon-guzzling trees in North Borneo. [More.](#) [Eco-business News]

Ancient trees suggest Genghis Khan's success was built on grass.

Climate history written in the rings of ancient Mongolian pines provides clues to Genghis Khan's phenomenal empire-building success. [More.](#) [South China Morning Post]

Climate Change 2014: A U. N. Report

In late March, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change published a report on climate change and the effect it has had on the world's environment and ecosystem. A special infographic developed by Switchyard Media summarizes the report and its key findings, including the effect climate change has on wildfire activity. [More.](#) [Fire Break, Wildland Fire News, NFPA]

Formal State Forester Sledge Pass Away



er's devil and pressman at The Messenger. Jim wrote a humor column for the newspaper for many years and, following his mother's retirement, owned and published the paper until 2003.

Following graduation from MSU, he spent one year as a high school science teacher in Forest Park, GA, then took a job with Rome Kraft (later Georgia Kraft), working out of Canton and Dallas, GA and Auburn, AL in forest management and wood procurement. In 1974, Jim went to work for

James Lamar (Jim) Sledge, Jr., 74, died on April 27, 2014, at University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson, MS. Visitation will be on Wednesday, April 30, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Stringer Family Funeral Home, Crystal Springs, MS, and the funeral service will be held on Thursday May 1, 2014, at 10:00 a.m. in Stringer Funeral Chapel. Interment will follow Thursday afternoon at 3:00 p.m. at Pinecrest Cemetery, DeKalb, MS.

Jim Sledge was born on July 30, 1939, in Grenada, MS. He grew up in DeKalb, MS following his parents' purchase of The Kemper County Messenger. He graduated from DeKalb High School in 1957, attended East Mississippi Junior College, and was a 1961 graduate of the Mississippi State University School of Forestry. During his high school and college years, he worked as a print-

er's devil and pressman at The Messenger. Jim wrote a humor column for the newspaper for many years and, following his mother's retirement, owned and published the paper until 2003.

Following graduation from MSU, he spent one year as a high school science teacher in Forest Park, GA, then took a job with Rome Kraft (later Georgia Kraft), working out of Canton and Dallas, GA and Auburn, AL in forest management and wood procurement. In 1974, Jim went to work for Mead Corporation at their new mill in Stevenson, AL. His district originally included the town of Guntersville, AL where the family lived for the next eighteen years until he retired from Stevenson as Procurement Manager. In 1991, Jim was named head of the Mississippi Forestry Commission where he served for fourteen years. He retired in 2005 with the distinction of having the longest tenure of any State Forester in Mississippi history.

Jim served as chairman of the National Association of State Foresters (NASF) Forest Resource Management Committee for three years and was president of NASF in 2002-2003. In 2011, NASF named the forest management award "The Jim Sledge Current Achievement Award in Forest Resource Management" for a five-year period. He was instrumental in the Federal Healthy For-

ests Initiative and the U.S. Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003, as well as implementation of the Conservation Title programs in the 2002 Farm Bill. Jim received recognition from the American Tree Farm System for sustained excellence in support of the program, having served for a number of years on its National Operating Committee. Of the honors and awards he received over the years, he was particularly proud of being named 2003 Alumni Fellow for the College of Forest Resources by the Mississippi State University Alumni Association.

Jim is survived by his wife of 53 years, Bettye Bounds Sledge; his daughter Jane Sledge Taylor of Byram, MS; his son James L. (Buddy) Sledge, III and partner John Chadwick of Atlanta; grandchildren James Cleveland (CJ) Jowers (Keretha) of Crystal Springs, Alexandra Jowers of Scooba, MS, and Jeffrey Tyler Jowers of DeKalb, MS; great-grandson Michael Jowers of Crystal Springs; sisters Rachel Sledge Dutton (Mike) of Dallas, GA and Rebecca Sledge Mitchell (Derick) of Montgomery, AL; mother-in-law Beth Boyd Bounds of Meridian, MS; sister-in-law Jane Bounds Thompson (Don) of Houston, TX; brother-in-law Albert Allen Bounds, Jr. (Brownie) of Atlanta; nine nieces and nephews, and sixteen great-nieces and nephews.

He was predeceased by his parents, Lamar and Frances Sledge of DeKalb, MS.

April 2014 Storm Damage Assessment

By Joshua Skidmore, MFC Spatial Analyst.

This is a summary of the aerial detection flight of the tornado outbreaks that occurred on 4/28/2014. The damaged areas were flown for timber damage assessment on 5/1-5/2 2014. The flights were conducted by Gus Dear (pilot), Joshua Skidmore and Michael Hughey of the Mississippi Forestry Commission.

The areas affected were approximately 31,854 acres total, of which 22,211 were forested acres (9,017 acres pine, 2,629 acres mixed timber and 10,565 acres hardwood). A 1/8 mile buffer from the main damage was used to calculate additional loss and affected forest areas not necessarily lying on the ground, but damaged by the storm. These areas may or may not fully recover as insects, diseases and other stressors

tend to cause further timber loss. The economic impact on forested acres is estimated at \$14,326,895 (using \$5-8 per ton for pulpwood and \$25-30 per ton for sawtimber). Information by county is listed below:

- 🌲 Lee County - \$902,352
- 🌲 Itawamba County - \$2,500,132
- 🌲 Prentiss County - \$1,490,859
- 🌲 Leake County - \$2,167,546
- 🌲 Neshoba County - \$751,065
- 🌲 Winston County - 6,514,938

The acreage was calculated using a 2003 cover type layer provided through MARIS. The average volumes are gathered from current MS Institute for Forest Inventory (MIFI) data. This estimate takes into account young sub-merchantable stands as well as mature timber. This estimate will be low for individual stands and/or

landowners as some experienced total loss in affected areas of high value trees. The tornado damage affected 6 different Mississippi counties.

This information is current as of 5/2/2014. There have been reports of other damaged areas, but aerial reconnaissance has shown spotty, localized damage with no distinct damage paths that can be followed. Further information will be processed regarding damage from these storms as it is reported.

Two maps (page 10 and 11) created by the MFC are attached showing areas of greatest damage. These maps were created using MFC aircraft and the sketch-mapper technology. Please contact Josh Skidmore at the information provided for more information.

U. S. Fire Season Summary

From National Interagency Fire Center

2000 - Fires: 92,250, Acres Burned: 7,393,493
2001 - Fires: 84,079, Acres Burned: 3,570,911
2002 - Fires: 73,457, Acres Burned: 7,184,712
2003 - Fires: 63,629, Acres Burned: 3,960,842
2004 - Fires: 65,461, Acres Burned: 8,097,880*
2005 - Fires: 66,753, Acres Burned: 8,689,389
2006 - Fires: 96,385, Acres Burned: 9,873,745
2007 - Fires: 85,705, Acres Burned: 9,328,045

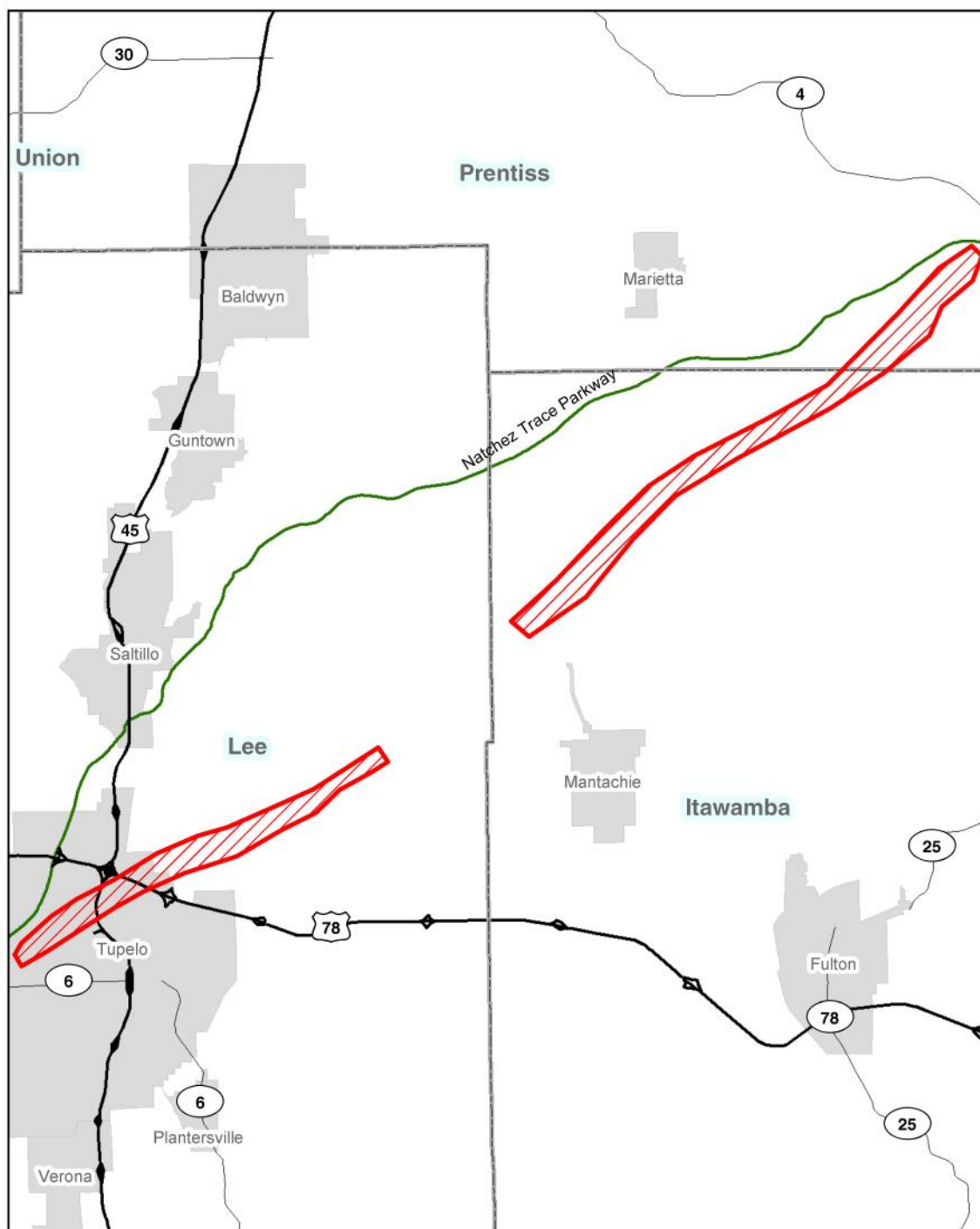
2008 - Fires: 78,979, Acres Burned: 5,292,468
2009 - Fires: 78,792, Acres Burned: 5,921,786
2010 - Fires: 71,971, Acres Burned: 3,422,724
2011 - Fires: 74,126, Acres Burned: 8,711,367
2012 - Fires: 67,774, Acres Burned: 9,326,238
2013 - Fires: 47,579, Acres Burned: 4,319,546

* 2004 fires and acres do not include state lands for North Carolina

Damage Flown by MFC Aircraft on 5/2/2014



April 28, 2014 Tupelo Tornado Path



0 2 4 8 Miles

Legend

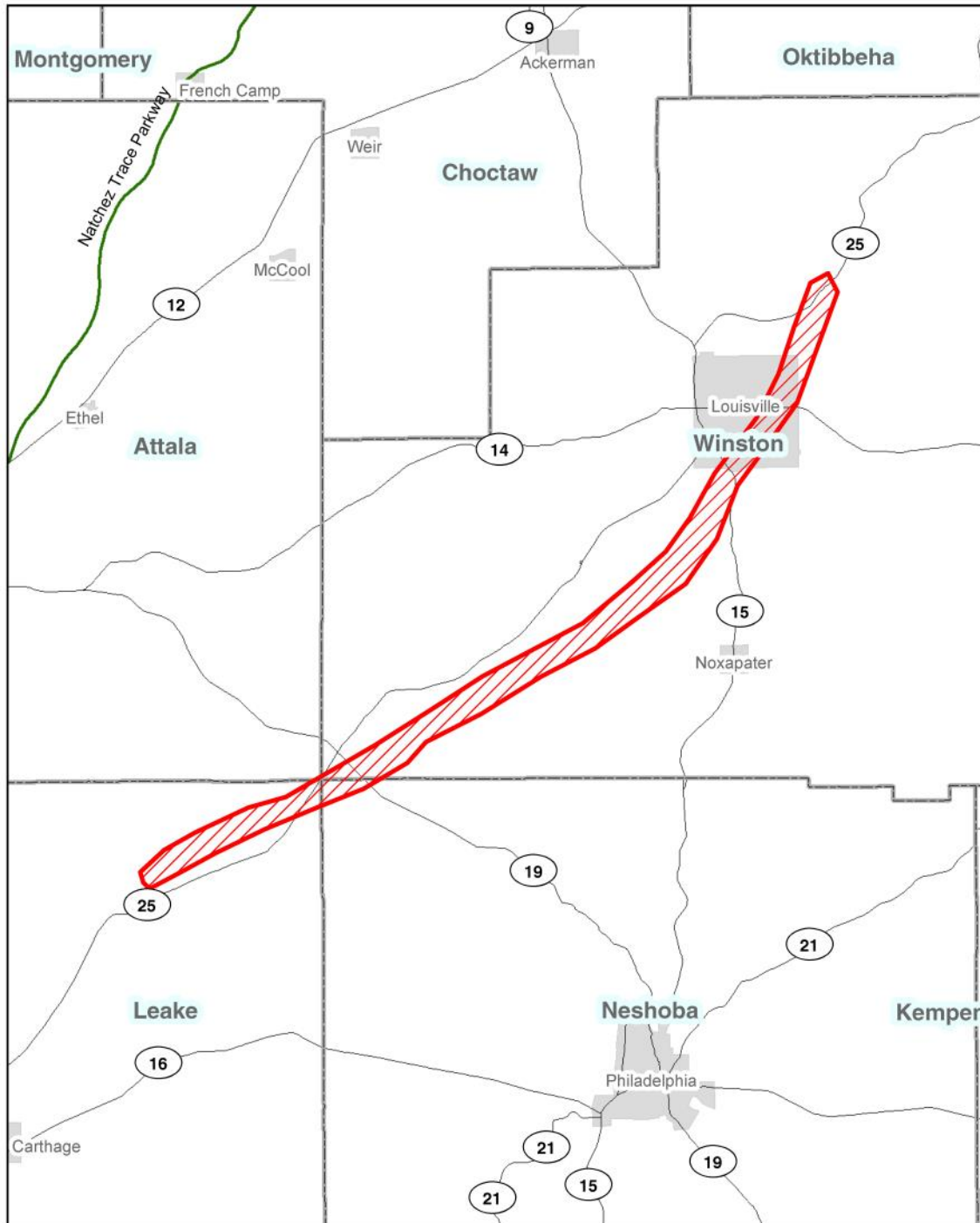
 Tupelo_Damage_Path

Created 5/2/2014 by Joshua Skidmore

Damage Flown by MFC Aircraft on 5/1/2014



April 28, 2014 Louisville Tornado Path



0 3 6 12 Miles

Legend

 Louisville_Tornado_Path_Flown

Created 5/2/2014 by Joshua Skidmore



Firewise tips checklist for homeowners

WILDFIRE DOESN'T HAVE TO BURN everything in its path. In fact, cleaning your property of debris and maintaining your landscaping are important first steps to helping minimize damage and loss.

The work you do today can make a difference. Follow these simple action steps now and throughout the year to prepare and help reduce the risk of your home and property becoming fuel for a wildfire:

- ☐ Clear leaves and other debris from gutters, eaves, porches and decks. This prevents embers from igniting your home.
- ☐ Keep your lawn hydrated and maintained. If it is brown, cut it down to reduce fire intensity. Dry grass and shrubs are fuel for wildfire.
- ☐ Remove dead vegetation from under your deck and within 10 feet of the house.
- ☐ Don't let debris and lawn cuttings linger. Dispose of these items quickly to reduce fuel for fire.
- ☐ Remove anything stored underneath decks or porches.
- ☐ Inspect shingles or roof tiles. Replace or repair those that are loose or missing to prevent ember penetration.
- ☐ Screen or box-in areas below patios and decks with wire mesh to prevent debris and combustible materials from accumulating.
- ☐ Cover exterior attic vents with metal wire mesh no larger than 1/8 inch to prevent sparks from entering the home.
- ☐ Remove flammable materials (firewood stacks, propane tanks, dry vegetation) within 30 feet of your home's foundation and outbuildings, including garages and sheds. If it can catch fire, don't let it touch your house, deck or porch.
- ☐ Enclose under-eave and soffit vents or screen with metal mesh to prevent ember entry.
- ☐ Wildfire can spread to tree tops. If you have trees on your property, prune so the lowest branches are 6 to 10 feet from the ground.

Learn more about how to keep your family safe and reduce your home's risk for wildfire damage at www.firewise.org.



Western Wildfires Season Never Ends

For some wildfigthers, the wildfire season never ended. Below are several snippets from the current wild-fire season.

San Diego, California -

🌲 The California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection has responded to more than 1,500 fires this year, compared with about 800 during an average year

🌲 At least 10 fires spanning 39 square miles have chewed a destructive path through San Diego County since Tuesday, destroying 11 houses, an 18-unit apartment complex and two

businesses. A badly burned body was found in a transient camp, and one firefighter suffered heat exhaustion.

Modesto, California

🌲 A fire fueled by hot weather and high winds on Friday quickly spread to a row of town houses, destroying three of the structures and damaging six others. Authorities said the blaze started on the grassy berm of a free-way project frequented by homeless people

California

🌲 "There hasn't been a break," said Taylor, as he ate lunch under a shaded tree amid orders to be ready to move on three minutes'

notice. "It's almost a 12-month fire season."

🌲 The tinder-box conditions have put firefighters on alert throughout California. The state fire-fighting agency went to peak staffing in the first week of April, instead of its usual start in mid-May.

🌲 So far, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection has responded to more than 1,500 fires this year, compared with about 800 during an average year.

🌲 California is bracing for its worst-ever wildfire season which could cripple the state's economy, Gov. Jerry Brown said Sunday.

2014 Wildfire Season Cost

The U.S. is gearing up for one monster of a wildfire season this year, with the drought-ravaged Western states — California, New Mexico and Arizona — ready to ignite. And if things get as bad as predicted, the USDA warned in a new report, the federal government's going to be about \$400 million short the money needed to fight back.

The U.S. Forest Service and Department of the Interior may need to spend as much as \$1.8 billion fighting fires this year, the federally mandated report says. However, they only have \$1.4 billion available to do it, meaning they're going to have to start "fire borrowing" — which involves taking funds away from programs, like brush clearing

and controlled burns, aimed at reducing future blazes. Thus begins a rather frightening cycle.

Both departments, in fact, have had to resort to fire borrowing seven out of the past 12 years. Meanwhile, increased development has made more people vulnerable to the blazes, and fighting them therefore more expensive. But that's not the only reason why this year is going to be so expensive, the agencies say. DOI Assistant Secretary of Policy, Management and Budget Rhea Suh specifically called out climate change as an underlying cause of the growing problem.

"With climate change contributing to longer and more intense wildfire

seasons, the dangers and costs of fighting those fires increase substantially," Rhea said. The report notes

that fire seasons have gotten 60-80 days longer over the last three decades, and that annual acreages burned have more than doubled.

One way or another, the fires are going to be fought — it's not really a problem anyone's able to ignore. But the agencies are pushing for a change to the way we fund their efforts: bi-partisan legislation recently introduced in Congress, and backed by Obama, would treat the worst wild-fires as natural disasters, like hurricanes, qualifying them for special relief funds not subject to budget caps.

JUNE is National Dairy Month



June is
NATIONAL
Rose
MONTH

HOW WILL YOU CELEBRATE?



JUNE is NATIONAL **SAFETY** MONTH



June
NATIONAL
CANDY MONTH



14 JUNE
FLAG DAY

A LIFE MAY BE IN YOUR HANDS
LEARN THE SIGNS OF A STROKE



JUNE IS STROKE MONTH
visit heartandstroke.sk.ca



**June is National Fresh
FRUITS & VEGETABLES MONTH**

Eat More Fresh, Organic Fruits & Vegetables
Good for your Health • Good for the Earth



June is
Internet
Safety
Month

PTSD
National PTSD
Awareness Day
June 27th
*Not all Wounds
are Visible*

**MEN'S HEALTH
MONTH**

Awareness. Prevention.
Education. Family.

www.menshealthmonth.org

June

JUNE IS

**Migraine & Headache
Awareness Month**



Unmasking the Mystery
of Chronic Headache Disorders

Cost of Fighting Wildfires in 2014 Projected ...

Cost of Fighting Wildfires in 2014 Projected to be Hundreds of Millions of Dollars over Amount Available

WASHINGTON, May 1, 2014-- According to a Congressionally-mandated report issued today, the U.S. Forest Service and the Department of the Interior (DOI) are projected to spend over \$470 million more than is available to fight wildfires this season. According to the report, the Forest Service and Interior may need to spend \$1.8 billion fighting fires this year, while the agencies have only \$1.4 billion available for firefighting.

If the fire season is as costly as the study predicts, the Forest Service and the Interior Department will be forced to take funding out of other critical programs that increase the long-term resistance of National Forests and public lands to wildfire. Both Departments have had to divert funds from other programs to

fund firefighting efforts for 7 of the last 12 years.

"Fire borrowing," as it's known, takes funding away from forest management activities such as mechanical thinning and controlled burns that reduce both the incidence and severity of wildfires. In addition to fire borrowing, over the last two decades, the Forest Service has also had to shift more and more money to firefighting, thereby reducing foresters and other staff by over 30% and more than doubling the number of firefighters.

Over the last three decades, fire season lengths have increased by 60-80 days and annual acreages burned have more than doubled to over 7 million acres annually. In addition, growing housing development in forests has put more people and houses in harms' way, also making firefighting efforts more expensive.

The mission of the Forest Service, part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations. The agency manages 193 million acres of public land, provides assistance to state and private landowners, and maintains the largest forestry research organization in the world. Public lands the Forest Service manages contribute more than \$13 billion to the economy each year through visitor spending alone. Those same lands provide 20 percent of the Nation's clean water supply, a value estimated at \$7.2 billion per year. The agency has either a direct or indirect role in stewardship of about 80 percent of the 850 million forested acres within the U.S., of which 100 million acres are urban forests where most Americans live.

[Entire Press Release](#)

Largest Wildland Fire Losses

From National Fire Protection Association

- 🌲 **October 1918** - Cloquet, Minnesota: \$35 million in 1918 dollars.
- 🌲 **June 1990** - Santa Barbara, California: \$273 million loss in 1990 dollars.
- 🌲 **October 1991** - Oakland, California: \$1.5 billion loss in 1991 dollars.
- 🌲 **October 1993** - Orange County, California: \$528 million loss in 1993 dollars.
- 🌲 **May-June 1998** - Florida: \$395 million loss in 1998 dollars.
- 🌲 **May 2000** - Los Alamos, New Mexico: \$1 billion loss in 2000 dollars.
- 🌲 **October 2003** - Julian, California: \$1.1 billion loss in 2003 dollars.; and San Bernardino, California: \$975 million in 2003 dollars.
- 🌲 **October 2007** - San Diego County, California: \$1.8 billion in 2007 dollars.
- 🌲 **November 2008** - Sacramento, California: \$800 million loss in 2008 dollars.

Safety First . . .

Safety Is In Your Hands - Vehicle Care

Potholes Pack A Powerful Punch.

By NAPS, North American Precip Syndicate (NAPS)—

Hitting a pothole can be more than a momentary jolt. While the tires and wheels should be visually inspected as soon as possible, you should know there could be damage to the steering, suspension and alignment systems that you can't see.

To help determine if hitting a pothole has damaged your vehicle, watch for these warning signs:

- ✦ **Loss of control**, swaying when making routine turns, bottoming out on city streets or bouncing excessively on rough roads. These indicate that key safety-related systems—the steering and suspension—may have been damaged. They largely determine your car's ride and handling. Key components are shocks and struts, the steering knuckle, ball joints, the steering rack or box, bearings, seals and hub units, and tie rod ends.

- ✦ **Pulling in one direction**, instead of maintaining a straight path, and uneven tire wear. These mean an alignment problem. Proper wheel alignment is important for safe handling and long-lasting tires.

- ✦ **Low tire pressure**, bulges or blisters on the sidewalls, or

dents in the rims. These problems should be checked out as soon as possible as tires are the critical connection between your car and the road.



Potholes occur when water permeates the pavement—usually through a crack from wear and tear of traffic—and softens the soil beneath it, creating a depression in the surface of the street. (NAPS)

"If you've hit a pothole and suspect that there may be damage to the tires, wheels, steering and suspension, or wheel alignment," said Rich White, executive director, Car Care Council, "it's worth having a professional technician check out the car and make any necessary repairs."

As a general rule of thumb, he advises, steering and suspension systems should be checked at least once a year and wheels should be aligned at the same interval. Motorists who drive in areas where potholes are common should be prepared to have these systems checked more frequently.

The Car Care Council is the source of information for the "Be Car Care Aware" consumer education campaign promoting the benefits of regular vehicle care, maintenance and repair to consumers.

Free Guide

For a copy of the council's "Car Care Guide" or for more information, visit www.carcare.org.

Top 10 Worst City Roads for Potholes

1. San Jose, CA
2. Los Angeles, CA
3. The Bay Area of California
4. Kansas City, MO
5. New Orleans, LA
6. San Diego, CA
7. Sacramento, CA
8. St. Louis, MO
9. Omaha, NE
10. New York City, NY

First Time, Every Time